

**AGENDA**  
**Interested Persons' Meeting**  
**July 10, 2008, 2:00 PM**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Floor Hearing Room**  
**428 J Street, Suite 800**  
**Sacramento, California 95814**

**Tickets to Agencies Under Regulation 18944.1**

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The staff of the Fair Political Practices Commission (the "Commission") will hold an interested persons' meeting soliciting public input to assist the Commission in its review and consideration of regulatory action addressing Regulation 18944.1, which provides an exception from the Political Reform Act's (the "Act") definition of "gift" for tickets provided to an agency and used by agency officials.

Issues:

Currently, Regulation 18944.1 provides that tickets to events, such as amusement parks and sporting events, are not gifts to public officials if the tickets are provided to the official's agency and the agency determines which official will use the tickets and it has a written record providing the agency policy on how the tickets are used. The exception also applies if the tickets are to an event at a publicly owned facility or provided pursuant to a contract for the use of the facility or under a joint-exercise of powers agreement, with certain conditions. Also, an official (and his or her spouse and family) may receive tickets, and the tickets are not considered gifts, if the official had an official or ceremonial role to perform on behalf of the agency. Other than the exception for an official or ceremonial role, there are no requirements in the current regulation that the tickets must be used for a public purpose or benefit.

Commission staff is proposing amendments to the regulation that will eliminate most of the provided exceptions and restrict the official or ceremonial role exception to the admission at the event without any other substantial benefit provided. Further amendments would require the agency to post, on the agency's web site, the names of individuals who use the tickets as well as the public purpose achieved. The amendments are intended to make information available to the public regarding the use of the public's tickets to events and to allow the Act's basic rules applying to the receipt and reporting of gifts to control.

Staff solicits input from the public as well as from state and local government agencies that have contractual agreements that provide tickets to the agency. At the July 10, 2008, interested persons' meeting, staff will solicit input from those participating regarding the issue of tickets provided to government agencies and what action the Commission should take to best further the purposes of the Act's gift provisions.

In addition to written comments from the public and government agencies addressing these topics, the Commission requests government agencies who have adopted a policy on how

tickets are used, under current Regulation 18944.1, to submit a copy of that policy. Written comments and other information may be addressed to William J. Lenkeit, Legal Division Senior Counsel at the address set forth above. To participate in this interested persons' meeting by telephone, please contact Virginia Latteri-Lopez at (916) 322-5660.